

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01710 231536Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 SCS-06 PA-01
SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 PC-10
USIE-00 /058 W
-----000453 231542Z /43
O P 231519Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6504
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CASC, PINS, ASEC, CO
SUBJ: STARR KIDNAPPING; "EL TIEMPO" ARTICLE

REF: STATE 044759

1. MISSION'S (USIS) INFORMATION OFFICER MET WITH "EL TIEMPO"
DEPUTY DIRECTOR SANTOS CONCERNING BASIS OF FEB 18 ARTICLE
(REFTEL). SANTOS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ARTICLE WAS MERELY BASED
ON RUMOR AND THAT THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL SOURCE FOR THE "INFORMATION"
IT CONTAINED.

2. COMMENT: THE "MYSTERY" AIRPLANE CITED IN THE ARTICLE AHS
INSPIRED A NUMBER OF SPECULATIVE STORIES IN LOCAL MEDIA IN PAST
TWO WEEKS. "EL TIEMPO" VERSION IS THE MOST IMAGINATIVE OF THESE
BUT IT WAS PROBABLY INEVITABLE THAT SOME REPORTER WOULD HAVE A
GO AT CONNECTING THE PLANE'S ACTIVITIES WITH THE STARR CASE.
LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH TALES IS NATURALLY ALSO INCREASED BY FACT
THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN AND CURRENT STATUS OF STARR CASE ARE
GENERALLY UNKNOWN TO THE COLOMBIAN PUBLIC. GIVEN THE PATTERN
OF OTHER COLOMBIAN KIDNAPPING CASES
IT IS RELATIVELY EASY FOR
JOURNALISTS AND READERS TO EXPECT OR IMAGINE THAT THE STARR CASE
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MIGHT WIND UP IN THE MANNER PORTRAYED IN THE "EL TIEMPO" ARTICLE.
DUE TO THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE INVETERATE DESIRE OF REPORTERS
TO GET A SCOOP, THERE ARE VERY LOW CONSTRAINTS OR INHIBITIONS
AGAINST THE PUBLICATION OF STORIES OF THIS TYPE.

3. NONETHELESS, WE OF COURSE ARE CONTINUING TO CAUTION OUR
JOURNALISTS CONTACTS AGAINST SUCH SPECULATIVE ARTICLES, POINTING

OUT THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THEY COULD ENDANGER STARR AND ARE CRUEL TO HIS FAMILY. IN ANSWER TO LOCAL PRESS QUERIES ABOUT THE FEB 18 ARTICLE, WE HAVE ALSO PUT OUT A STATEMENT THAT IT IS WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

4. AS WILL BE CLEAR FROM THE FOREGOING, WE DO NOT PERCEIVE ANY RELEVANT JAPANESE ANGLE IN THIS MATTER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PRESS COMMENTS, AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BOGOTA01710
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780084-0353
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780224/aaaaauby.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4a6e9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3511237
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STARR KIDNAPPING; \"EL TIEMPO\" ARTICLE
TAGS: CASC, PINS, ASEC, EAIR, CO, (STARR, RICHARD CHARLES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4a6e9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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